



Patent Application of
Huey Thomas Crochet
for the
Dynamic Snag-resistant Fishing Weight

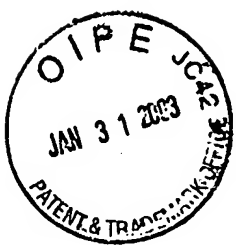
Background - Field of Invention

This invention relates to the field of fishing, specifically fishing weights.

Description of Prior Art
Prior Art 1

To my knowledge, the only fishing weight claiming snag-resistant performance is a patent pending slip sinker. It is packaged as the Lindy, Rattlin no-snag slip sinker, and was developed by the Linder brothers of In-Fisherman Magazine, Box 973, 110 Wright Street, Brainerd, MN 56401, www.lindylittlejoe.com.

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Operation of Invention - Corrected

The dynamic snag-resistant fishing weight is designed primarily for the tight line method of fishing. The tight line method requires that a tight line be achieved between the weight and the tip of the rod. This condition is maintained until a fish is hooked or steals the bait. At this point the line is reeled in, and a weight with snag-resistant performance becomes a great asset to the person fishing.

The weight operates by performing a spin upon contact with obstacles. The rounded face of the angled portion of the weight makes first contact and slips to one side initiating a spin, bottom to top, at a right angle to the length of the weight most often resulting in a 360° spin.

Since the line is always over and across any potential snag, the level of line attachment is the level of clearance over the obstacle. As the longer, lower portion of the weight swings up to the level of line attachment, the obstacle is cleared, but the impact of collision with obstacles most often results in a complete 360° spin. If there is structure on both sides so narrow as to disallow a spin, the weight will follow the line, sliding along on the angled portion of the weight until clearance is achieved. If the passage is too narrow and snags the weight, then the strong, all metal construction of the weight is a particular asset in freeing the weight by intense, applied force.

This weight is designed to be attached at the tag end of the line in a fixed, non-sliding fashion.

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Objects and Advantage - Corrected

- (a) To provide a weight that can be used equally well by the majority of sports fishermen.
- (b) To provide a product of sufficient static weight to allow for the tight-line method of fishing.
- (c) To provide a weight with a horizontal, rather than vertical, mode of snag-resistant operation to allow for long casts and fast retrieves.
- d. To provide a weight with excellent snag resistant performance.
- e. To provide a weight incapable of spooking fish by purposely making sounds.

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Description of Invention - Corrected

The prototype for the dynamic, snag-resistant fishing weight was made from a smooth 6-inch nail with a 1/4-inch diameter 6, 7, and 8.

After cutting off the head, both ends are then rounded to a smooth hemisphere head 4 and 5.

Measure 1-1/2 inches from one end and make a bend, 8, to form a sharp 40° angle, 6.

Lay the weight on its side and drill a 1/8-inch hole, 3, so that 1/16 of an inch of metal is between the hole, 3, and the tip of the 1-1/2 inch angled end, 6.

After then attaching a 3/8-inch o-ring, 2, through the hole, 3, and 1 inch long swivel, 1, through the o-ring, 2, the weight is complete, 9.

While the above description contains many specifications, these should not be construed as limitations on the scope of the invention, but rather as an example of one preferred embodiment.

Other variations are possible. For example, the following were considered as possible embodiments:

(A) A curved version whereby the leading end bearing the hole is gently curved to bring the tip of said hole, bearing end up, to the 40° position.

(B) Molded versions of heavy materials mixed with plastic or resins, or of the variety of plastic metals were considered, said heavy materials being granular or fibrous from the group of heavy materials.

(C) Stainless steel was rejected as being too expensive and harder to fashion. Other metals were also considered, such as copper, tin, lead, brass, bronze, pewter, and combinations thereof.

(D) Protective coatings were considered and rejected as all coatings will eventually chip and peel, or dissolve into the water, and without them the product is more environmentally safe.

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(E) Some versions of the current product can be made with a larger or smaller diameter, thereby adding or reducing weight. They may be longer or shorter for the same reason.

(F) Some versions of the weight may be made with a longer angled end than the 1-1/2 inch version.

(G) Some versions were considered with different angles varying from 5° to 50°. All of the above were considered and rejected in favor of the current version, which I consider to be the proper combination for best performance, cost of manufacture, and environmental safety. Certain of these aspects may be revisited at some later date. Accordingly, the scope of the invention should be determined not by the embodiments illustrated, but by the claims and their legal equivalents.